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We have many volumes that discuss the forms of municipal government, with detailed and comparative explanations of the powers and duties of the various officers, boards and commissions operating under any given system. With elaborations of the activities or functions themselves we have not been supplied so generously. This is the aim of Dr. James' book, and he has succeeded remarkably well. "Throughout this work but little attention has been devoted to the subject of governmental machinery, for the chief concern here has been to point out what every city should do no matter what form of government it might be operating under" (p. 347).

The author, however, does not agree with the poet's conclusion as to the organization of municipal government, observing "that while the end is much more important than the means, there may be a vast difference in the ease with which the end is to be accomplished, according to whether or not the most suitable means have been employed" (p. 347). This same spirit of intelligent toleration pervades all the many mooted questions discussed.

Municipal Functions surveys the field of the major activities of the typical city in such a way that it may be of great value as a guide to a college class in municipal administration. At the same time the average citizen will find it entirely readable. The relationship between success in management and the adoption of definite policies in municipal affairs is pointed out in every chapter. It is this feeling, unconsciously seeping into his mind, that will change the city dweller into a citizen.

The work of the various departments of the average city is taken up in detail. City planning, public morals, education, budgets and accounting, public works, health and safety are a few of the subjects given consideration. There has been a conscious omission of footnotes and bibliography.

Certain general conclusions are open to criticism. For example, there is ample reason for the contradiction of the statement (p. 146) in reference to prostitution. It is a recognized fact that it has not "been forbidden in every civilized country by law." Abraham Flexner, in *Prostitution in Europe* says: "In England, Italy, Norway, Holland and Switzerland there is no penal enactment against prostitution as such." In a memorandum to the Corporation of Glasgow, the Chief Constable declares: "Immorality in itself is no offense against the law." We are impressed, however, with the open mind with which the many controversial questions are approached. The author has no reformer's axe to grind at any point. In each case the facts are presented, pro and con, and the dogmatic conclusion, if there is to be one, is left to the reader for formulation.

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KAWAKAMI, K. K. *Japan in World Politics*. Pp. xxvii, 300. Price, \$1.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1917.

Mr. Kawakami, a partly American-educated Japanese, so far as his advanced work is concerned, and a follower of Karl Marx who has modified his extreme socialistic views after an extended residence in the western part of the United States and marriage to an American woman, has become a somewhat prolific

writer, not to say propagandist, on the subject of the diplomatic relations of Japan and America. Whether one reads his *Asia at the Door*, his *American-Japanese Relations*, the present work, or his *Modern Germany* and other attempts in Japanese, the reader will be impressed with the same note through all of apologetics for his native land or the lament that neither has the United States nor have other Western Powers admitted Japan without reservation and fully into the comity of nations or to a complete social and legal equality. The author's announced and laudable motive is to promote friendly relations and good feeling between the United States and Japan, the two nations most concerned in the political and economic questions that determine the future of the lands bordering on the Pacific Ocean. The whole viewpoint, however, is essentially Japanese and asserts the following disputable and in my opinion untrue major premise that Japan has not received a square deal from America. This unhistorical attitude somewhat minimizes the author's chance of becoming the ideal interpreter of rational relations between the two countries, such as are typified in the Root-Takahira and Lansing-Ishii "gentlemen's agreements" which have signalized and emphasized the personal and national attitudes of America to Japan under the Roosevelt and Wilson administrations. It is safe to say that this attitude has never seriously varied since the days of Commodore Perry, on the part of the United States at least. Mr. Kawakami's book will and should be read, however, by all those who wish to be informed on moderate Japanese opinion on certain controverted diplomatic or economic questions between the two governments, especially on those relating to California, Mexico, the Philippines, China, and German ambitions and dastardly intrigue. It offers some antidote to the Jingoistic utterances, writings and doings of certain American, Japanese and German trouble-makers.

Mr. Kawakami has a personal axe to grind also because he desires to become a naturalized citizen of the United States and he regards our attitude against naturalization as the real menace to our future relations with Japan. Equally as fantastic is his doctrine that Japan, the most serious enemy of the "Open Door" in China and the chief power threatening Chinese "integrity," prior to Mr. Lansing's agreement with Ishii, has been the sole nation to fight to maintain these principles. The "Open Door" is well known as an American policy begun in the American-Chinese Treaty of Wang Hia and emphasized by John Hay.

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LAPP, JOHN A. (Compiled by). *Important Federal Laws*. Pp. xv, 933. Price, \$6.00. Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen and Company, 1917.

In this volume Mr. Lapp, whose legislative work is widely known, seeks to give within the compass of less than one thousand pages a compilation of the more important recent federal laws. He has succeeded admirably, has used excellent judgment in the selection of statutes and in summarizing, where this is necessary. The result is a remarkably compact and handy volume printed in clear, large type on thin paper,—a book that will be indispensable to the banker, the journalist, the lawyer, the lecturer, the teacher and the advanced student of social science. It will also prove a valuable reference work for general libraries.